

Floral Street School Council
Meeting Minutes for Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Present: Joe Sawyer, Jane Lizotte, Kathy Rivenburg, Sandy Fryc,
Debbie Martel, Maribeth Boisvert, Karmen Bogdesic, Vicky
Proch, Debi Hemdal, Gina Kelly

Absent: Bob Wilson, Larry Lynch, Susan Campos

Response to caller ID question; Joe checked with Patrick Collins.
The process is not impossible but very costly. Major changes would be
needed with the line systems to and from Verizon.

Falcon Facts Update

3rd and 4th graders will receive information about the web site before
school.

Some aides have received training for use of the site.

Most 5th graders have finished and/or passed the levels available.

Vicky and Sue have put together a schedule with 2 volunteers per day
at this point.

The scheduled start date is Monday, May 12.

Levels 6, 7, and 21 are available at school only. Other levels may be
practiced at home.

Teachers will keep permission slips on file in classrooms. This will
ensure parents knowledge that grades are not confidential.

School Improvement Plan

Thanks to Sandy for her wonderful presentation to the School
Committee. Well received by all present.

Budget

The good news was that although House Ways and Means made cuts
the Shrewsbury local aid was not.

At town meeting some additional funding was returned to the school
department avoiding the need for student fees.

The initial cuts remain in place due to needs in new staffing and
growth.

School Safety

This was the focus for a recent faculty meeting as well as a meeting with Ellen Myers (SHS asst. principal) including the administrative team and town personnel.

In addition to regular fire drills, 2 other types of emergency procedures were discussed.

Shelter in Place – Students and faculty would remain in the building within designated rooms. Example: severe thunderstorm approaching, everyone off playground and evacuate 3rd floor.

Lock Down – Immediate and urgent need for all students to be in designated rooms until emergency passes or further instructions provided by authorities.

A discussion followed regarding need for practicing these situations. The Lock Down might be too frightening for some students but a practice of Shelter in Place would enable us to learn of any glitches in the procedure.

Joe pointed out the need for support staff to know of procedures and have input with suggestions.

Core Values

Faculty and Student Council were asked for input regarding the document and some changes were made to the language. Joe will work with students to create a kid friendly document. The plan is for the completed document to go home on May 12.

Vicky commented that the document was fabulous. A great process with input from all levels. Reaffirmed the belief that leadership depends upon common knowledge and belief in values and goals.

Parent to Teacher Communication

Everyone acknowledged the need for good communication but the concern is “What is too much?” Joe wrote a letter to parents supporting the teacher’s professionalism and the parent’s need to access the teacher appropriately. Comments from the School Council were requested and the general opinion was that parents should model what we expect from our children – respect from and for all parties involved.

A letter of support was suggested by the School Council and Ami volunteered to create one.

Committees

Interviewing: Debi volunteered for grade 3 and Karmen offered to sit as needed.

School Start Time: Maribeth, Karmen, and Kathy volunteered.

Next Meeting

June 3rd at O'Connor's – 7:00PM